United Nations S/2017/341

Security Council

Distr.: General
20 April 2017

Original: English

Identical letters dated 19 April 2017 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit the following reliable and serious information:

After the American aggression on the Syrian airbase of Sha'irat on 7 April 2017, an agreement was reached between the military and intelligence services of Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, the United States and Israel, which meet within the framework of the so-called "Military Operations Command" in Jordan (channelling Western and Gulf aid to terrorist armed groups in southern Syria), to escalate tension in the southern region of Syria and prepare the terrain for creating so-called "safe zones" there. Accordingly, the Saudi regime issued instructions to the terrorist group Jaysh al-Islam (Army of Islam), operating in the countryside of Damascus, to prepare for chemical strikes on the capital and on a number of areas in Damascus suburbs, including Irbin, Harasta, Duma, Zamalka and Utaya.

Based on those Saudi instructions, several senior leaders of terrorist armed groups met in a building that was the premises of Hamdan Hospital, in the countryside of Damascus, to develop the targeting plan. The toxic chemicals are now prepared at the Duma National Hospital, which is occupied by these terrorist groups.

The main immediate goal of planning once again for the use of toxic chemicals by terrorist armed groups is to falsely accuse the Syrian Arab Army of doing it and to create a new and similar pretext for the United States Administration to once again commit a military aggression against Syria.

The competent Syrian authorities, as well as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, have received several contacts from a number of United Nations organizations working in Damascus, expressing their concerns about the news transmitted through mass media and social media on this serious issue.

It would be highly appreciated if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Please recycle